

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL
U.S. Appln. No. 09/576,951

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amendments:

Claims 1-32. (Cancelled).

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Claim 33. (Previously Amended) A monoclonal antibody having binding specificity for a rapamycin, wherein said antibody is obtained using an immunogen comprising a molecule selected from the group consisting of a rapamycin having a linking group at the 42 position, a rapamycin having a linking group at the 31 position, and a rapamycin having a linking group at both the 42 position and the 31 position, wherein said molecule is conjugated to an immunogenic carrier material via said linking group.

Claim 34. (Previously Added) The monoclonal antibody of Claim 33, wherein said molecule is a rapamycin having a linking group at the 42 position.

Claim 35. (Previously Added) The monoclonal antibody of Claim 34, wherein said molecule is a rapamycin 42-ester with a dicarboxylic acid.

Claim 36. (Previously Added) The monoclonal antibody of Claim 35, wherein said dicarboxylic acid is succinic acid.

Claim 37. (Previously Amended) The monoclonal antibody of Claim 33, wherein said immunogenic carrier material is a protein selected from the group consisting of keyhole limpet hemocyanin and ovalbumin.

Claim 38. (Previously Added) The monoclonal antibody of Claim 33, wherein said immunogen is a rapamycin 42-ester with succinic acid conjugated to ovalbumin.

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Claim 39. (Previously Added) The monoclonal antibody of Claim 33, wherein said antibody is produced by hybridoma RAP-42-OVAF₂#1hc (ATCC No. 11568).

Claim 40. (Previously Added) Hybridoma RAP-42-OVAF₂#1hc (ATCC No. 11568).

Claim 41. (Previously Added) A monoclonal antibody which specifically binds to an antigen which is specifically bound by the monoclonal antibody secreted by hybridoma RAP-42-OVAF₂#1hc, wherein said hybridoma has been deposited and accorded ATCC Accession No. 11568.

Claim 42. (Previously Added) A monoclonal antibody according to any one of Claims 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, or 38, obtained by:

- (a) administering said immunogen to an appropriate animal species to effect immunogenic challenge and recovery of antibody producing-cells sensitized to said immunogen;
- (b) immortalizing said antibody-producing cells; and
- (c) recovering said monoclonal antibody from a selected immortalized cell line thus established.

Claim 43. (Previously Amended) A hybridoma which produces a monoclonal antibody as defined in any one of Claims 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38 or 41.

Claim 44. (Previously Amended) A hybridoma which produces a monoclonal antibody as defined in Claim 42.

Claim 45. (Previously Added) An immunoassay kit for measuring the blood level of a rapamycin comprising a monoclonal

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antibody as defined in any one of Claims 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39 or 41.

Claim 46. (Previously Added) An immunoassay kit for measuring the blood level of a rapamycin comprising a monoclonal antibody as defined in Claim 42.

Claim 47. (Amended) The monoclonal antibody of Claim 41, wherein said monoclonal antibody is ~~obtainable~~ obtained using, as an immunogen, a rapamycin 31,42-diester with glutaric acid conjugate with keyhole limpet hemocyanin.